[7th August 1929

Mr. K. R. KARANT.—" With reference to clause (*b*), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to call for a report ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I think, Sir, it would be very difficult to get a report on this point as we have no means of knowing in what cases ryots have refrained from applying for the division of joint pattas owing to the fact that they may be called on to pay certain fees."

Levy of fees for subdivision of assessed lands in South Kanara.

*74 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the fees paid for subdivision of assessed lands in South Kanara ;

(*b*) under what law, by whom and for what purposes are such fees levied ;

(*c*) to whom these fees are credited and how they are distributed ;

(*d*) from what year these subdivision fees are levied and what is the annual income for the past five years in the district of South Kanara therefrom ; and

(*e*) whether Government contemplate any relief to ryots, especially Christian ryots, in South Kanara ?

A.—(*a*) Two rupees per subdivision.

(*b*) The Survey and Settlement Retrenchment Committee composed of officials and members of the Legislative Council, which met on 18th August 1922, recommended that subdivisions made at the request of ryots after survey or between surveys might be charged to the ryot. It was in accordance with this recommendation that the levy of subdivision fees was sanctioned by the Government, in consultation with the Board of Revenue. The purposes for which the fee is levied are described in the answer to clauses (*d*) and (*e*).

(*c*) The fees collected are credited in the accounts under 'XXXV. Miscellaneous—Recoveries of service payments.' Half the fee levied is given to the karnam provided that the Revenue Inspector certifies to the correctness of the karnam's work after checkmeasuring the subdivision.

(*d*) The scheme for the levy of fees for making subdivisions was introduced early in 1924. Information about the amount of fees realized annually in the South Kanara district as far as available is given below :—

		RS.
Calendar year	1924	10,863
Do.	1925	15,010
Do.	1926	10,988
Official year	1926–27	8,835
Do.	1927–28.	10,305

(*e*) The Government have called for a report on the system ; the report is due from the Board of Revenue next year and on its receipt the results of its working will be considered.